

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 were pending in the application. Claims 2, 8, 10, 20, 22 and 24 were cancelled. Claims 1, 8, 14, and 20 were amended. Claims 26-27 have been added. Claims 1, 3-7, 9, 11-19, 21, 23, and 25-27 are currently pending in the application.

Objection to the Claims:

Claims 24 and 25 were objected to. Claim 24 was objected to for being identical to claim 23. Claim 25 was objected to for an informality. Claim 24 has been cancelled, and thus its objection is now believed moot. Claim 25 has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's recommendation, and thus Applicant submits that the objection has been overcome.

35 U.S.C. § 112 Rejection:

Claims 1-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has amended claim 1 in accordance with the Examiner's recommendations, and therefore respectfully submits that the § 112 rejection has been overcome.

Double Patenting Rejection:

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 22 and 23 of Cole, U.S. Patent 6,671,748, in view of Hayes, U.S. Patent 4,933,845. Claim 14 was rejected under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 10 of Cole. Attached herewith is a terminal disclaimer with regard to the Cole patent, which is commonly owned with the present application. Applicant submits that the terminal disclaimer obviates the double patenting rejection.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection:

Claims 1-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sartore, U.S. Patent 6,012,103, in view of Clarke, U.S. Patent 4,916,692. Applicant notes that the § 103(a) rejection is believed moot with respect to cancelled claims 2, 8, 10, 20, 22 and 24. With respect to the remaining claims, Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

The cited references, taken singly or in combination, do not teach or suggest all of the elements of the independent claims. Sartore teaches a system and method for reconfiguring a peripheral device connected by a computer bus and port to a host from a first generic configuration to a second manufacturer specific configuration is provided in which the configuration of a peripheral device may be electronically reset. A peripheral interface device for a standardized computer peripheral device bus and port is also provided in which a physical disconnection and reconnection of the peripheral device is emulated to reconfigure the bus and port for a particular peripheral device.

Clarke teaches an apparatus for controlling access to a time division multiplexed (TDM) bus includes a frame address register having a plurality of storage registers for storing a plurality of frame addresses designated for use in communicating over a TDM bus. A frame address latch stores a current frame address. A frame comparator, coupled to the frame address register and the frame address latch, compares the designated frame addresses with the current frame address and produces a first signal indicative of the storage register containing a frame address matching the current frame address. A time slot register has a plurality of storage registers for storing a time slot number designated for use in communicating over said TDM bus. A time slot generator generates a current time slot number.

In contrast, Applicant's independent claim 1 recites, in pertinent part:

"A method for configuring a peripheral bus, the method comprising ...

reading configuration information from the peripheral device, wherein the configuration information includes device identification information, wherein said reading is performed over a serial side bus, wherein the serial side bus is coupled to the host controller and the peripheral device” (Emphasis added).

Independent claim 14 recites a similar combination of features.

Neither Sartore nor Clarke, taken singly or in combination, teach or suggest this combination of features. In particular, Applicant can find no teaching or suggestion whatsoever of a serial side bus anywhere in Sartore or Clarke. In the Office Action, the Examiner states that reading over a serial side bus is taught in column 2, lines 43-45, and column 4, lines 24-30. Applicant respectfully disagrees and can find no teaching or suggestion in this citation of a serial side bus over which configuration information is read by a host controller from a peripheral device coupled to a peripheral bus. Furthermore, Applicant can find no teaching or suggestion of a serial side bus as recited in the independent claims anywhere else in Sartore or Clarke. Applicant therefore submits that the standard for obviousness has not been met. Accordingly, removal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection is respectfully requested.

Patentability of the Added Claims:

The present amendment adds claims 26 and 27. Applicant submits that claims 26 and 27 are fully supported by the specification, and thus no new matter has been added. For example, each of claims 26 and 27 are supported by Figure 3 and its associated description in the specification, among other places. Applicant further submits that newly added claims 26 and 27 are in condition for allowance for at least the reasons stated above.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits the application is in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is requested.

If any extensions of time (under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136) are necessary to prevent the above referenced application(s) from becoming abandoned, Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extensions. If any fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert, & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account No. 501505/5500-58300/BNK.

Also enclosed herewith are the following items:

Return Receipt Postcard

Respectfully submitted,

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